However, keeping in view the difficulties of the States, a revised and tapering funding pattern providing for 65:35 during the first and second year of XI Plan, 60:40 in third year, 55:45 in the fourth year and 50:50 thereafter has been notified for the XI Plan period. The North Eastern States will have a 90:10 funding ratio with the central share resourced out of the 10% funds earmarked for the North Eastern States, in the central budgets for SSA.

Sliding status in UNESCO's education index

†1428. SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN TIWARI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India's place in the UNESCO's Education Index has slid from 100 to 105 and of the world's nearly 77 crore illiterates, India alone accounts for 27 crore;

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto;

(c) whether Government has taken note of the fact that the drop-out rate of the dalit children is increasing while their enrolment is decreasing; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and the measures being taken to check it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) As per the Education for All - Global Monitoring Report 2008 of UNESCO, India ranks 105th amongst 129 countries for which this report has been prepared. India has a composite Education for All Development Index (EDI) of 0.797. India ranked 99th in the Report for the year 2007 with a composite EDI of 0.789 and 101st in the Report for the year 2006 with a composite EDI of 0.741. Thus, even though the rank in the Global Monitoring Report is lower, India has consistently increased its position on the scale of EDI. The Report also estimates the number of illiterates in the population aged 15+ during the period 1995-2004 to be 774 million in the world. In case of India, it is estimated to be 268 million.

(c) No, Sir. As per available data, the enrolment of children belonging to SC & ST households has consistently improved over the last decade while dropout rate has declined.

(d) Question does not arise.

Private self-financing engineering colleges

1429.SHRI SU. THIRUNAVUKKARASAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of private self-financing engineering colleges in the country, State-wise; and

(b) how many private engineering colleges have been given permission for deemed university status in 2006-07 and 2007-08?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) There are 2099 private self financing engineering colleges in the country. The State-wise details are enclosed as Statement (*See* below).

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.